4000-01-U

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Upward Bound Math and Science
Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

## Overview Information:

Upward Bound Math and Science Program

Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.047M.

#### Dates:

Applications Available: [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: [INSERT DATE 40 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: [INSERT DATE 100 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

# Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

<u>Purpose of Program</u>: The Upward Bound (UB) Program is one of the seven programs known as the Federal TRIO Programs.

The UB Program is a discretionary grant program that supports projects designed to provide students with the skills and motivation necessary to complete a program of secondary education and to enter into, and succeed in, a program of postsecondary education. There are three types of grants under the UB Program: UB; Veterans UB; and UB Math and Science (UBMS) grants.

In this notice we invite applications for UBMS grants only. The invitation to apply for UB grants has been announced and we will invite applications for Veterans UB grants in a forthcoming notice.

The UBMS Program supports projects designed to prepare high school students for postsecondary education programs that lead to careers in the fields of math and science.

UBMS grantees are required to provide the services listed in sections 402C(b) and (c) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1070a-13).

Grantees may also provide the permissible services in section 402C(d) of the HEA. UBMS Program grantees must also provide the services listed in 34 CFR 645.14(a) and may provide the services listed in 34 CFR 645.14(b).

## Background:

The Federal TRIO programs, including the UBMS Program, represent a national commitment to education for all students regardless of race, ethnic background, disability status, or economic circumstances. The Department has a strong interest in ensuring that groups traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education, such as low-income students, first-generation college students, students with limited English proficiency, students with disabilities, homeless students, students who are in foster care or aging out of foster care, and other disconnected students, receive services provided by the UBMS Program.

The UBMS Program is a critical component of the Department's efforts to improve college readiness, access and completion for students who have been traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education. To more strategically align UBMS grants with broader reform strategies intended to improve postsecondary access and completion, this notice includes a competitive preference priority that encourages applicants to propose activities that are supported by moderate evidence of effectiveness (as defined in this notice). The Department is particularly interested in receiving applications that include plans to provide services for students, supported

by evidence, that increase the likelihood that students will complete high school and enroll in and complete a program of postsecondary education. The Department is not specifying a particular service, such as tutoring or mentoring, that is tied to evidence, but is providing an opportunity for the applicant to decide which statutorily authorized service the project will implement based on available evidence of effectiveness.

Additionally, this notice includes an invitational priority encouraging applicants to focus on increasing opportunities for students to earn postsecondary credits while in high school. Some of these opportunities for postsecondary coursework may be available through dual enrollment programs. Dual enrollment programs allow high school students to enroll in credit-bearing college courses while enrolled in high school. In various forms and under different names, dual enrollment programs exist in all 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Recent research<sup>2</sup> suggests that participation in dual enrollment programs can lead to improved academic outcomes, especially for students from low-income households and

<sup>1</sup> Education Commission of the States, "Individual State Profile," http://ecs.force.com/mbdata/mbprofallRT?Rep=DE15A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> An, B. P. (2012). "The Impact of Dual Enrollment on College Degree Attainment: Do Low-SES Students Benefit?" Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, 35, 57-75.

first generation college students. Such participation can lead to better grades in high school, increased enrollment in college following high school, greater college credit accumulation, and higher rates of persistence in college.

Priorities: This notice contains one competitive preference priority and one invitational priority. In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(ii), the competitive preference priority is from 34 CFR 75.226. Applicants must include in the one-page abstract submitted with the application a statement indicating if they addressed the competitive preference priority and/or the invitational priority.

Competitive Preference Priority: For FY 2017 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, this priority is a competitive preference priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we award three additional points to an application that meets this priority.

This priority is:

Moderate Evidence of Effectiveness (3 points).

Applications supported by evidence of effectiveness that meets the conditions set out in the definition of "moderate evidence of effectiveness" in 34 CFR 77.1(c).

Invitational Priority: For FY 2017 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications for this competition, this priority is an invitational priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), we do not give an application that meets this invitational priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

This priority is:

The Secretary encourages applicants to propose projects designed to increase opportunities for participants to earn postsecondary credits in high school, such as through providing connections to dual enrollment programs.

Definitions: These definitions are from 34 CFR 77.1.

Moderate evidence of effectiveness means one of the following conditions is met:

(i) There is at least one study of the effectiveness of the process, product, strategy, or practice being proposed that meets the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) Evidence Standards without reservations, found a statistically significant favorable impact on a relevant outcome (with no statistically significant and overriding unfavorable impacts on that outcome for relevant populations in the study or in other studies of the

intervention reviewed by and reported on by the WWC), and includes a sample that overlaps with the populations or settings proposed to receive the process, product, strategy, or practice.

(ii) There is at least one study of the effectiveness of the process, product, strategy, or practice being proposed that meets the WWC Evidence Standards with reservations, found a statistically significant favorable impact on a relevant outcome (with no statistically significant and overriding unfavorable impacts on that outcome for relevant populations in the study or in other studies of the intervention reviewed by and reported on by the WWC), includes a sample that overlaps with the populations or settings proposed to receive the process, product, strategy, or practice, and includes a large sample and a multisite sample.

Note: Multiple studies can cumulatively meet the large and multisite sample requirements as long as each study meets the other requirements in this paragraph.

Multisite sample means more than one site, where site can be defined as a local educational agency, locality, or State.

Relevant outcome means the student outcome(s) (or the ultimate outcome if not related to students) the proposed

process, product, strategy, or practice is designed to improve; consistent with the specific goals of a program.

What Works Clearinghouse Evidence Standards means the standards set forth in the WWC Procedures and Standards
Handbook (Version 3.0, March 2014), which can be found at the following link:

http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/DocumentSum.aspx?sid=19.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070a-11 and 1070a-13.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department
General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts
75 (except for 75.215 through 75.221), 77, 79, 82, 84, 86,
97, 98, and 99. (b) The Office of Management and Budget
Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and
Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted
and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part
3485. (c) The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost
Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards in 2
CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the
Department in 2 CFR part 3474. (d) The regulations for
this program in 34 CFR part 645.

<u>Note</u>: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

<u>Note</u>: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

#### II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$900,000,000 for the Federal TRIO Program for FY 2017, of which we intend to use an estimated \$44,000,000 for UBMS awards. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Contingent upon the availability of funds and the quality of applications, we may make additional awards in FY 2018 from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$257,500 - \$382,896.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$266,511.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the applicable maximum award amount listed immediately following this paragraph for a single budget period of 12 months. We will also reject any application for new applicants that proposes a budget to serve fewer than 60 participants or, for applicants that are current grantees, any application with a proposed

budget to serve fewer than the number of participants the applicant was approved to serve in FY 2016.

- For an applicant that is not currently receiving a UBMS Program grant, the maximum award amount is \$257,500, to serve a minimum of 60 participants.
- For an applicant that is currently receiving a UBMS Program grant, the maximum award amount is an amount equal to the applicant's base award amount for FY 2016.

Estimated Number of Awards: 162.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

## III. Eligibility Information

- 1. Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education, public and private agencies, and organizations including community-based organizations with experience in serving disadvantaged youth, combinations of such institutions, agencies and organizations, and secondary schools.
- 2. <u>Cost Sharing or Matching</u>: This program does not require cost sharing or matching.
- 3. Other: An applicant may submit more than one application for a UBMS Program grant so long as each application describes a project that serves a different

target area or target school (34 CFR 645.20(a)). The Secretary is not designating any additional populations for which an applicant may submit a separate application under this competition (34 CFR 645.20(b)).

#### IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package: Sharon Easterling, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5E235 Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 453-7425 or by email: Sharon.Easterling@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) by contacting the program contact person listed in this section.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission:

Requirements concerning the content and form of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit the application narrative,

which includes the budget narrative, to no more than 65 pages using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. Page numbers and an identifier may be within the 1" margin.
- Each page on which there is text or graphics will be counted as one full page.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including charts, tables, figures, and graphs. Titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions may be singled spaced.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger, or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman and Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the

Application for Federal Assistance Face Sheet (SF 424);

Part II, the Budget Information Summary form (ED Form 524);

Part III, the UBMS Program Profile form; Part III, the onepage Project Abstract form; and Part IV, the Assurances and

Certifications. The page limit also does not apply to a

table of contents, which you should include in the application narrative. If you include any attachments or appendices, these items will be counted as part of Part III, the application narrative, for purpose of the pagelimit requirement. You must include your complete response to the selection criteria in Part III, the application narrative.

Any application addressing the competitive preference priority may include up to four additional pages for the priority. These additional pages must be used to discuss how the application meets the competitive preference priority. Any application addressing the invitational priority may include up to two additional pages for the priority. These additional pages must be used to discuss how the application meets the invitational priority. The additional pages allotted to address the competitive preference priority and the invitational priority cannot be used for or transferred to the application narrative or any other section of the application.

We will reject your application if -

- You do not apply these standards; or
- You exceed the page limit.
- 3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: [INSERT DATE 40 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (Grants.gov). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to Other Submission Requirements in section IV of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the program contact person listed under <a href="For Further Information Contact">For Further Information Contact</a> in section VII in this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: [INSERT DATE 100 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

- 4. Intergovernmental Review: This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this program.
- 5. <u>Funding Restrictions</u>: We specify unallowable costs in 34 CFR 645.41. We reference additional regulations outlining funding restrictions in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.
- 6. <u>Data Universal Numbering System Number, Taxpayer</u>

  Identification Number, and System for Award Management: To

  do business with the Department of Education, you must--
- a. Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN);
- b. Register both your DUNS number and TIN with the System for Award Management (SAM), the Government's primary registrant database;
- c. Provide your DUNS number and TIN on your application; and
- d. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information while your application is under review by the

Department and, if you are awarded a grant, during the project period.

You can obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet at the following Web site: http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform.

A DUNS number can be created within one to two business days.

If you are a corporate entity, agency, institution, or organization, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service. If you are an individual, you can obtain a TIN from the Internal Revenue Service or the Social Security Administration. If you need a new TIN, please allow two to five weeks for your TIN to become active.

The SAM registration process can take approximately seven business days, but may take upwards of several weeks, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data you enter into the SAM database. Thus, if you think you might want to apply for Federal financial assistance under a program administered by the Department, please allow sufficient time to obtain and register your DUNS number and TIN. We strongly recommend that you register early.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, it may be 24 to 48 hours before you can access the information in, and submit an application through, Grants.gov.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not need to make any changes. However, please make certain that the TIN associated with your DUNS number is correct. Also note that you will need to update your registration annually. This may take three or more business days.

Information about SAM is available at www.SAM.gov. To further assist you with obtaining and registering your DUNS number and TIN in SAM or updating your existing SAM account, we have prepared a SAM.gov Tip Sheet, which you can find at: www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/sam-faqs.html.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov Web page:

www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

- 7. Other Submission Requirements: Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.
  - a. Electronic Submission of Applications.

Applications for grants under the UBMS Program, CFDA number 84.047M, must be submitted electronically using the

Governmentwide Grants.gov Apply site at <a href="www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a>.

Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not email an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement and submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement.

You may access the electronic grant application for the UBMS Program at www.Grants.gov. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.047, not 84.047M).

Please note the following:

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.
- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not accept your application if it is received—that is, date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system—after 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30:00 p.m.,
- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education
  Submission Procedures for submitting an application through
  Grants.gov that are included in the application package for
  this program to ensure that you submit your application in
  a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also
  find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to
  Grants.gov under News and Events on the Department's G5
  system home page at www.G5.gov. In addition, for specific
  guidance and procedures for submitting an application
  through Grants.gov, please refer to the Grants.gov Web site
  at: www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-forgrants.html.
- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.
- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- You must upload any narrative sections and all other attachments to your application as files in a read-only, non-modifiable Portable Document Format (PDF). Do not upload an interactive or fillable PDF file. If you upload a file type other than a read-only, non-modifiable PDF (e.g., Word, Excel, WordPerfect, etc.) or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material. Please note that this could result in your application not being considered for funding because the material in question—for example, the application narrative—is critical to a meaningful review of your proposal. For that reason it is important to allow yourself adequate time to upload all material as PDF files. The Department will not convert material from other formats to PDF.
- Your electronic application must comply with any page-limit requirements described in this notice.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number.

  This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department. Grants.gov will also notify you automatically by email if your application met all the Grants.gov validation requirements or if there were any errors (such as submission of your application by someone

other than a registered Authorized Organization

Representative, or inclusion of an attachment with a file

name that contains special characters). You will be given

an opportunity to correct any errors and resubmit, but you

must still meet the deadline for submission of

applications.

Once your application is successfully validated by Grants.gov, the Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send you an email with a unique PR/Award number for your application.

These emails do not mean that your application is without any disqualifying errors. While your application may have been successfully validated by Grants.gov, it must also meet the Department's application requirements as specified in this notice and in the application instructions. Disqualifying errors could include, for instance, failure to upload attachments in a read-only, non-modifiable PDF; failure to submit a required part of the application; or failure to meet applicant eligibility requirements. It is your responsibility to ensure that your submitted application has met all of the Department's requirements.

• We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical

Issues with the Grants.gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk

Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30:00 p.m.,
Washington, D.C. time, on the application deadline date,
please contact the program contact person listed under <u>For</u>
<u>Further Information Contact</u> in section VII of this notice
and provide an explanation of the technical problem you
experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov
Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application
if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with
the Grants.gov system and that the problem affected your
ability to submit your application by 4:30:00 p.m.,

Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. We will contact you after we determine whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement: You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through Grants.gov because--

- You do not have access to the Internet; or
- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Grants.gov system;

#### and

• No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to

the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevents you from using the Internet to submit your application.

If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

Address and mail or fax your statement to: Gaby Watts, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5E119, Washington, DC 20202. Fax: (202)260-7464.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

# b. <u>Submission of Paper Applications by Mail</u>.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center Attention: (CFDA Number 84.047M) LBJ Basement Level 1 400 Maryland Avenue, SW. Washington, DC 20202-4260

You must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

We will not consider applications postmarked after the deadline date.

## c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application, by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center Attention: (CFDA Number 84.047M) 550 12th Street, SW. Room 7039, Potomac Center Plaza Washington, DC 20202-4260

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30:00 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department--

- (1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and
- (2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you

do not receive this grant notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

#### V. Application Review Information

- 1. <u>Selection Criteria</u>: The selection criteria for this competition are in 34 CFR 645.31 and listed in the application package.
- 2. Review and Selection Process: We remind potential applicants that in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary also requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal assistance from the Department of Education (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

For this competition, a panel of non-Federal reviewers will review each application in accordance with the selection criteria in 34 CFR 645.31 and the competitive preference priority. The individual scores of the reviewers will be added and the sum divided by the number of reviewers to determine the average peer reviewer score received in the review process. Additionally, in accordance with 34 CFR 645.32, the Secretary will award prior experience points to applicants that conducted a UBMS Program project during budget periods 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16, based on their documented experience. Prior experience points, if any, will be added to the application's average reader score to determine the total score for each application.

If there are insufficient funds for all applications with the same total scores, the Secretary will choose among the tied applications so as to serve geographic areas and eligible populations that have been underserved by the UBMS Program.

# 3. Risk Assessment and Special Conditions:

Consistent with 2 CFR 200.205, before awarding grants under this program the Department conducts a review of the risks posed by applicants. Under 2 CFR 3474.10, the Secretary may impose special conditions and, in appropriate

circumstances, high-risk conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

Integrity and Performance System: If you are 4. selected under this competition to receive an award that over the course of the project period may exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$150,000), under 2 CFR 200.205(a)(2) we must make a judgment about your integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards -- that is, the risk posed by you as an applicant--before we make an award. In doing so, we must consider any information about you that is in the integrity and performance system (currently referred to as the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)), accessible through SAM. You may review and comment on any information about yourself that a Federal agency previously entered and that is currently in FAPIIS.

Please note that, if the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from the Federal Government exceeds \$10,000,000,

the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, require you to report certain integrity information to FAPIIS semiannually. Please review the requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, if this grant plus all the other Federal funds you receive exceed \$10,000,000.

## VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices: If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN); or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements:
We identify administrative and national policy requirements
in the application package and reference these and other
requirements in the <u>Applicable Regulations</u> section of this
notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the <u>Applicable Regulations</u> section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

- 3. Reporting: (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding under the competition. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).
- (b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multiyear award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.
- (c) Under 34 CFR 75.250(b), the Secretary may provide a grantee with additional funding for data collection analysis and reporting. In this case the Secretary establishes a data collection period.
- 4. Performance Measures: The success of the UBMS
  Program will be measured by the percentage of UBMS
  participants who enroll in and complete postsecondary
  education. The following performance measures have been

developed to track progress toward achieving program success:

- (a) The percentage of UBMS students who took two years of mathematics beyond Algebra I by the 12th grade;
- (b) The percentage of UBMS students who graduated from secondary school with a regular secondary school diploma;
- (c) The percentage of UBMS students who enrolled in postsecondary education;
- (d) The percentage of UBMS students who enrolled in a program of postsecondary education by the fall term following graduation from high school and who in the first year of postsecondary education placed into college-level math and English without need for remediation;
- (e) The percentage of former UBMS students who enrolled in a program of postsecondary education and graduated on time--within four years for the bachelor's degree and within two years for the associate's degree;
- (f) The percentage of UBMS participants who enrolled in a program of postsecondary education and attained either an associate's degree within three years or a bachelor's degree within six years of enrollment;

- (g) The percentage of UBMS students expected to graduate high school in the reporting year who complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); and
  - (h) The cost per successful participant.

Grant recipients must collect and report data on steps they have taken toward achieving these goals. Accordingly, we request that applicants include these performance measures in conceptualizing the design, implementation, and evaluation of their proposed projects.

5. Continuation Awards: In making a continuation award under 34 CFR 75.253, the Secretary considers, among other things: whether a grantee has made substantial progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the project; whether the grantee has expended funds in a manner that is consistent with its approved application and budget; and, if the Secretary has established performance management requirements, the performance targets in the grantee's approved application.

In making a continuation grant, the Secretary also considers whether the grantee is operating in compliance with the assurances in its approved application, including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal

financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: Sharon Easterling, U.S.

Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room

5E235, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 453-7425 or

by email: Sharon.Eastering@ed.gov.

If you use a TDD or a TTY, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer disc) on request to the program contact person listed under <a href="For Further Information Contact">For Further Information Contact</a> in section VII of this notice.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the <u>Federal</u>

Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the <u>Federal Register</u> and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at:

www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this
document, as well as all other documents of this Department
published in the Federal Register, in text or PDF. To use

PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the <u>Federal Register</u> by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: February 6, 2017

Linda Byrd-Johnson,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary,
Higher Education Programs, and Senior
Director, Student Service.

[FR Doc. 2017-02714 Filed: 2/9/2017 8:45 am; Publication Date: 2/10/2017]